

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 12426 290757Z
ACTION EA-06

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S E C R E T BANGKOK 12426

LIMDIS

CINCPAC PLEASE PASS VICE PRESIDENT'S PARTY

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, TH (MONDALE, WALTER F)
SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT'S TRIP: TALKING POINTS

1. WE BELIEVE SUMMARY LIST OF TALKING POINTS
CONTAINED REFTEL IS OUTSTANDING. PRIME MINISTER
KRIANGSAK WILL BE DEEPLY PLEASED BY INVITATION AND
THAT ALONE WILL SET A CONSTRUCTIVE, VERY POSITIVE
TONE TO VISIT. TALKING POINTS COVER ALL MAJOR
SUBJECTS OF IMPORTANCE TO THAI AND OURSELVES AND
WE APPRECIATE THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES HAVE BEEN
AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE.

2. AS WE HAVE POINTED OUT PREVIOUSLY, WE BELIEVE
THE MOST SERIOUS ISSUE IN BILATERAL CONTEXT WILL BE
REFUGEE SITUATION. AS WE HAVE DESCRIBED EARLIER

(REFS B AND C) REFUGEE SITUATION HAS BECOME VERY
SERIOUS, PARTICULARLY WITH BOAT CASE ARRIVALS
INCREASING DRAMATICALLY IN THE PAST WEEKS BOTH
HERE AND IN MALAYSIA. WE FEAR OUR NEW PROGRAM
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WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO MEET THIS NEW SITUATION
AND KRIANGSAK MAY BE CONSIDERING A PROPOSAL OF HIS
OWN FOR USG TO UNDERTAKE A MAJOR PROGRAM INVOLVING
ACCEPTANCE OF A LARGER NUMBER OF REFUGEES FROM
THAILAND. WE RECOGNIZE WE CANNOT NOW GO BEYOND
POINTS OUTLINED REFTEL. HOWEVER, VICE PRESIDENT
SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH AN

APPROACH BY KRIANGSAK. PRIME MINISTER IS MEETING MAY 1 WITH HIS ADVISORS. WE EXPECT TO KNOW BETTER AFTER THAT MEETING WHAT POSITION HE MAY TAKE ON THIS ISSUE.

3. ON MINOR POINT, I DO NOT BELIEVE IT APPROPRIATE OR EFFECTIVE FOR VICE PRESIDENT TO MENTION PERMANENT APPOINTMENT OF INS OFFICIAL TO BANGKOK. GIVEN DIMENSIONS OF REFUGEE PROBLEM THIS WOULD APPEAR TO THAI TO BE MINOR US ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENT OF NO PARTICULAR INTEREST OR HELP TO THEM.

4. WOULD ALSO NOTE THAT ON ECONOMIC SIDE WE DO EXPECT GENERAL KRIANGSAK TO MAKE AT LEAST GENERALIZED APPEAL FOR GREATER USG HELP IN MEETING THAI TRADE DEFICIT, POSSIBLY INCLUDING EXPANDED ACCESS TO US MARKETS TO THAI EXPORTS. WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT MANY THAI EXPORT ITEMS ARE NOT COMPETITIVE STILL KRIANGSAK MAY FEEL IT NECESSARY TO AT LEAST GO ON THE RECORD ON THIS. SECOND ISSUE WHICH MFA AT LEAST IS CONTEMPLATING ASKING KRIANGSAK TO RAISE IS QUESTION OF US RELEASE OF TIN FROM STOCKPILE, BUT WE SUSPECT TIME WILL NOT ALLOW FOR DETAILED EXCHANGES ON THIS OR OTHER ECONOMIC MATTERS LESS CENTRAL TO KRIANGSAK'S DOMESTIC ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

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5. WILL ALSO REPORT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS WITH REGARD TO PROPOSED CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM NOW UNDER STUDY WITHIN RTG (BANGKOK 12336).
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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